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February 26, 1999

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

OFFICE

CC DK+. No. 98-141

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Chairman William Kennard Federal Communications Commission

1919M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket #98-141

Dear Chairman Kennard

I am writing in support of the merger between Ameritech and SBC Communications. As a consumer, the merger provides more product choices, new and improved services, competitive prices, increased technologies and convenience.

From both a personal and business point of view, an enhanced integrated mix of local, long distance, internet and high speed data services are anticipated. The merger offers customers the most advanced communications technology while promoting ease and the important attribute of convenience with a "one stop shopping" atmosphere.

In this global economy it is very important that we are able to communicate efficiently and effectively. Over the years, Ameritech and SBC Communications have provided excellent services to millions of people, together they can compete successfully as a domestic global powerhouse.

Ameritech is a company that cares about the people in the communities where they do business. For many years, Ameritech has given freely to support better and increased opportunities for underrepresented minorities to gain access to the best educational training. This merger is yet another opportunity to create new jobs and sustain contributions to worthy causes such as ours.

We value the partnership we have with Ameritech and encourage your support for the merger.

Sincerely

Phyllis Scott Buford Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Commissioner Susan Ness Commissioner Michael Powell

Commissioner Harold Furtchgott-Roth

Commissioner Gloria Tristani

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William Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Kennard,

CC DK+. No. 98-141

I urge you to do all you can to block the merger of SBC/PacBell with Ameritech.

**EX PARTE OR LATE FILED** 

This merger will create a huge monopoly over up to 40% of the nation's local phone lines. Monopoly control leads to higher prices for consumers like me. I am also concerned that it will lead to poor service.

Please say NO to this merger and YES to real competition.

Sincerely,

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## **Chicago Federation of Labor AFL-CIO**

Standing Up For Working Men And Women in Cook Count

March 2, 1999

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Timothy J. Leahy Assistant to the President The Honorable William Kennard

Chairman

Second Vice-President Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

**Suite 8-B201** 

Washington, DC 20554

CC DKt. No. 98-141

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Robert M. Healey President Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am communicating with you on behalf of the 500,000 members of the 300 Chicagoland union locals. We wish to inform the Federal Communications Commission that the Chicago Federation of Labor joins the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Communication Workers of America in supporting the pending merger of SBC Corporation and Ameritech.

It is self-evident there will be continual consolidations, mergers and alliances in the rapidly changing world of telecommunications. What used to be distinct lines of business are converging to create companies with nationwide capabilities and offerings which we are convinced will increase consumer choices.

In contrast to other high profile mergers that are resulting in severe job reductions SBC/Ameritech has stated their objective is to grow the business nationally and to create eight thousand jobs. Both companies are creating good paying union jobs with good pension and health care benefits.

Locally, Ameritech has an outstanding reputation for civic and community involvement. The company is generous with its philanthropy just as its employees are generous with their volunteer time and expertise. There is no reason to assume the merged company will be any less a contributor to improving the quality of life for Illinois citizens. Indeed, SBC Chairman Ed Whitacre has provided such assurances in writing.

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The Honorable William Kennard page two

We urge the Federal Communications Commission to approve the pending merger between SBC Corporation and Ameritech.

Sincerely,

Don Turner President

cc: Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Federal Communications Commission Susan Ness, Federal Communications Commission Michael Powell, Federal Communications Commission Gloria Trisani, Federal Communications Commission Richard Mathias, Illinois Commerce Commission



## **Chicago Federation of Labor AFL-CIO**

Prudential Plaza Suite 2600 MED Pandolph St

Standing Up For Working Men And Women in Cook County

Chicago, Illinois 60601

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Suite 8-B201 Washington, DC 20554

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